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(Original Signature of Member)

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To appropriate funds for grants by the Office for Domestic Preparedness
of the Department of Homeland Security.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SKELTON (for himself and Ms. HARMAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To appropriate funds for grants by the Office for Domestic
Preparedness of the Department of Homeland Security.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “First Responders Ex-
5 pedited Assistance Act of 2003”.



1 **SEC. 2. FUNDING FOR GRANTS BY THE OFFICE FOR DOMES-**
2 **TIC PREPAREDNESS.**

3 (a) APPROPRIATION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—For grants by the Office for
5 Domestic Preparedness of the Department of Home-
6 land Security, as authorized by the Homeland Secu-
7 rity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) and the
8 USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–56),
9 there is appropriated to the Secretary of Homeland
10 Security \$7,122,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 and
11 \$10,600,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, to remain
12 available until expended, of which—

13 (A) not less than \$1,000,000,000 each fis-
14 cal year shall be for grants authorized by sec-
15 tion 33 of the Federal Fire Prevention and
16 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.);
17 and

18 (B) not less than \$1,000,000,000 each fis-
19 cal year shall be for grants to State and local
20 law enforcement for terrorism prevention activi-
21 ties.

22 (2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
23 shall require, as a condition of each grant under this
24 section, that the grantee shall provide a matching
25 amount of not less than 25 percent of the amount
26 of the grant, at the time of the award of the grant.



1 (b) EXPEDITED PROCESS FOR AWARDING
2 GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award grants under this
3 section under the following expedited process:

4 (1) EXPEDITED PROCESS.—Within 120 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
6 retary shall award as grants to the maximum extent
7 practicable not less than 60 percent of the funds
8 available for each of fiscal years 2003 and 2004 for
9 grants referred to in subsection (a)(1).

10 (2) WAIVER OF MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—
11 The Secretary may waive any requirement that a
12 grantee provide a matching amount for a grant re-
13 ferred to in subsection (a)(1), upon certification that
14 the grantee has expended an amount equal to at
15 least 25 percent of the grant for domestic prepared-
16 ness activities since September 11, 2001.

17 (3) ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITY.—If the Sec-
18 retary determines that, because of the potential for
19 fraud or waste, the Secretary cannot award the per-
20 centage of funds required under paragraph (1), the
21 Secretary may exercise flexibility regarding such per-
22 centage consistent with the goal of expediting the
23 awarding of grants to eligible grantees.

24 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within 190 days after
25 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall



1 report to the appropriate committees of the Congress the
2 percentage of funds awarded as grants pursuant to the
3 expedited process in subsection (b), the names of grantees,
4 and the activities funded.

